THE

Theatrical Observer;

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate nor set down aught in malice."

No. 692 *Thursday, Feb.* 12, 1824. *Price* 1*d.*

Covent Garden Theatre.

The new Opera of *Native Land; or, the Return from Slavery,* was repeated last night to a crowded house, and again met with a most favorable reception. We understand it is written by Mr. Dimond, author of several successful dramatic pieces. The dialogue is carried on with considerable ease and clearness, although without any thing like brilliancy of idea or language. The humor is sometimes effective; but that which is chiefly displayed is too often drawn from an impure source; the worst an author can rely on; for it lowers his own reputation in proportion to its capability of raising a coarse laugh from the vulgar, whose ideas of wit or humor are most easily met by a reference to points of palpable immodesty. It is beneath any man of character to attempt such propitiation. The poetry of the songs, however, is of a superior description to what we generally find in modern Operas; and this adds greatly to the effect of the music, which is certainly in many instances delightful. Mr. Bishop is, without doubt, the finest composer of dramatic music for the English stage we have. We are convinced that Rossini himself would not succeed in *every branch* of *English* operatic music. We have only to blame Mr. Bishop for not more strictly adhering to *English taste,* which dwells with more rapture on delicate touching melody, than on all the combinations of Italian skill. We greatly admire *some* of Rossini's movements, because they display that flash of genius, which like Kean's acting, breaks out suddenly, overwhelming the soul with a brilliancy that few human efforts can surpass; but when the gleam is past, we cannot but reflect that it is mingled with much that affects not the feelings, and that can only derive its lustre from science. We intreat of Mr. Bishop not to be dazzled by the mere fame of any man; but to trust to his native powers; to consult the promptings of an *English* bosom; and he will find that he will shine more with the great majority of an *English* audience, whom, we think, he must feel it his interest and happiness to delight.

The encores in the course of the piece marked the judgment of the audience, and the execution of the music by Mr. Sinclair, Miss Paton, Miss M. Tree, Miss Love, &c. was very fine. The acting in this Opera also deserves particular remark, for by the efforts of all the chief performers in it, as great an effect is produced as the

nature of the piece admits of. We think this Theatre must derive considerable advantage from its decided success.—The Pantomime followed.

Drury Lane Theatre.

THE Comedy of *The Hypocrite* again made its appearance to a numerous audience; but a considerable part of the evening's attraction must be attributed to the revival here of the musical melo-drama of *Lodoiska*, aided and assisted by those magnanimous performers the *Horses*. This heavy piece, which does indeed require every adventitious aid to make it pass, received that support which it so greatly stood in need of, and still it was ponderous. The interest is too meagre—the dialogue in general too solemn and monotonous, to draw forth any feeling but a soporific one. If it had not been for HARLEY's vivacity of *tone* and manner, and the clattering hoofs of the horses; and, finally, the active warfare between Poles and Tartars, it is most likely one half of the audience would have been asleep. But even the rousing qualities of the trumpet, and the musquetry, and a flaming castle, were carried too far! Our ears were shunned, and our eyes actually rendered useless; for at the close not a soul on the Stage was visible from the smoke; and the pit was in such perfect obscurity, that the people were calling out to each other like those in a fog—"Where are you?"—"Which is the way out?—"Jem!"—"Tom!" &c. &c. If we had remained two minutes longer in the boxes we should have been equally in the clouds. It is a pity somebody does not invent stage-gunpowder sans smell or smoke. If this goes on we must really call upon MR. MICHAEL ANGELO TAYLOR to bring into Parliament a bill enacting "That from henceforth all Theatres shall consume their own smoke."—The house was as full as it could hold at half-price.

THE ADELPHI Theatre was filled last night at an early hour with a very respectable audience. In *Tom Jones*, MR. WRENCH, MR. BROWN, MR. WILKINSON, and MR. DALY, supported their several parts with great spirit. *St. Ronan's Well* followed, in which Burlettn, MR. BURROUGHS, and MRS. WAYLETT were honored with shouts of applause. MRS. DALY'S, *Mrs. Dodds*, was very laughable.

OLYMPIC.—At this pleasant little house, *Rochester*, was performed last night, after which *Moggie; or, the Scotch Piper*, was also repeated. The whole performance was well received by a full house.—MRS. FITZWILLIAM was honored with several encores.

☞ IT is respectfully suggested to our Friends to be careful, in going to the Theatre, not to be imposed on by an imitation of this Paper.

Printed & Published by E. THOMAS, Denmark-court, Exeter-'change, Strand. Published also by C. HARRIS, 25, Bow Street, Covent Garden; CHAPPELL and SON, Royal Exchange; and may be had, by order, of all Newsmen.

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening, (3rd time) a new Opera, called,

NATIVE LAND!

Or, the Return from Slavery.

The New Music composed by Mr BISHOP.
The Overture, and some selections from ROSSINI.
Aurelio di Montalto, (a noble Genose) Mr SINCLAIR,
Guiseppo, (a Senator) Mr W. FARREN, Marcello, Mr DURUSET
Tancredi, (a Naval Commander) Mr COOPER,
Peregrino, (valet to Aurelio) Mr FAWCETT, Pierro, Mr MEARS
Jacomo, Mr BARNES, Pantucchi, Mr EVANS,
Bonamo, Mr ATKINS, Isidro, Mr HORREBOW,
Luigi, Mr HENRY, Rocco, Mr RYALS, Myrtillo, Miss H. BODEN,
Clymante, (betrothed to Aurelio) Miss PATON,
Biondina, (disguised under the name of Cælio) Miss M. TREE,
Lavinia, (Sister to Aurelio) Miss BEAUMONT,
Zanina, (her woman) Miss LOVE Bridemaid, Miss HENRY,
The Chorusses by Mess. George, Henry, Ley, Longhurst, Norris,
I. S. & C. Tett, Tinney, Watts, &c.
Mesdms. Appleton, Dunn, Grimaldi, Henry, Pearce, &c.
Ballet by Mess. Austin, Collett, Grant, Heath, O'Brian, Ryals, Sutton
Mesdms. Bates, Boden, Griffiths, Hebbard, Louis,
Romer, Shotter, Thomasin, Twamley, Vedy, Vials, Vine, Wells.

ACT I.—The Mole of Genoa, (T. Grieve) A Chamber at Gueseppo (Pugh) The Palace of Tancredi, (W. Grieve)

ACT II.—A Garden upon the Roof of Clymante's Palace, (Grieve) Chamber at Gueseppo, (Pugh) Clymante's Palace, (Pugh)

ACT III.—Clymante's Palace & Garden by Moonlight, (Grieve) Chamber at Gueseppo, (Pugh) A Hall in Clymante's Palace, (T. Grieve) A Room in Tancredi's Palace, (Grieve) A Grand Hall in Clymante's Palace, (W. Grieve)

☞ HALF PRICE, *according to long established custom, will be admitted at the end of the* Second Act *of the* Opera.

After which, (5th time) a new Farce, called,

The Poachers.

The Principal Characters by

Mr COOPER, Mr JONES, Mr BLANCHARD,
Mr LOUIS, Mr O'BRIAN,
Mrs FAUCIT, Mrs CHATTERLEY, Mrs VINING, & Miss LOVE

To-morrow, John Bull, with the Pantomime.

Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

This Evening, (10th time) a new Comic Opera called

PHILANDERING;

Or, The Rose Queen.

Count Amaranth, Mr BRAHAM, Philander, Mr BROWNE,
Jerome, Mr DOWTON, Pierre, Mr TERRY, Lapsis, Mr HARLEY
Blaise, Mr KNIGHT, Auselmo, Mr MERCER,
Lisette, Miss SMITHSON, Pauline, Madame VESTRIS.
Emile, Miss STEPHENS, Matilda, Miss FORDE,
In Act III.—A RUSTIC DANCE,
By Mr & Mrs NOBLE, Mr & Mrs OSCAR BYRNE,
And the whole of the Corps de Ballet,
Concluding with, The Pas Provençal.

After which, the Grand Spectacle of

LODOISKA.

POLANDERS.

Prince Lupauski, Mr POWELL, Count Floreski, Mr HORN,
Baron Lovinski. Mr ARCHER, Varbel, Mr HARLEY,
Adolphus, Mr YARNOLD. Gustavus, Mr MAKEEN.
Sebastian, Mr Randall, Michael, Mr Brady, Cassimir, Mr Honnor.
Stanislaus, Mr Povey, Pages, Masters Edmonds & Baker,
Princess Lodoiska, Miss POVEY,
Captives, by Messdms. Phillips, Willmott. Webster, &c.

TARTARS.

Kera Khan, Mr WALLACK,
Ithorak. Mr WEBSTER, Khor, Mr G. SMITH,
Kruse, Mr Foster, Japhis, Mr Gibbon, Kajah, Mr Harrold,
Tamari, Mr D. Smith, Camazin, Mr Plumstead,
The Horde—Mess. Read, Kench, Eames, Goodson, Goodson, jun.
Vaughan, Hope, Brown, Sutton, Brady, Gusso, Bland, Robinson,
Wood, Eldon, Langley, Newton, Iliffe, Carrol, Tyler, Bacon, &c.

Fortified Castle upon the Borders of the Forest of Ostropol, By Sun-Set—With the gathering of the whole Horde of Tartars & their Cavalry.—Interior of the Castle at day-break.—Hall and Gallery—An attack of Horse and foot takes place, in which The Grand Stud of Horses, will beintroduced.—With the Destruction of The Castle ofLovinski by Fire ! ! !

To-morrow, A New Way to Pay Old Debts, with the Spoil'd Child, and Giovanni in London.